A

LETTER

FROM K F--d (A)

Miſs F or - - d,

ADDRESSED TO A

Perſon of Diſtinction.

the E. of J-rs-y.

WITH A

NEW BALLAD

To an OLD TUNE.

Sent to the AUTHOR by an UNKNOWN HAND.

The SECOND EDITION. With a POSTSCRIPT.

By philip Thickneſſe

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A

LETTER

FROM

Miſs *F--d*,
Ford

ADDRESSED TO A

PERSON of DISTINCTION.
Wm. Earl of Jersey

MY L--D,

THE cruelty of your L--d--p's behaviour to me, from the firſt of my unhappy acquaintance with you, to this day, has been ſuch, that I think it a juſtice due to your L--d--p and to myſelf, to lay it before the public: Not out of reſentment; but to endeavour to re-

move the prejudices the public (on whom my dependence now is) have conceived againſt me; prejudices that I know your L—d—p has infuſed into the minds of many perſons of diſtinction, from whom I had reaſon to expect, and from whom, I am perſuaded, I ſhould have had favour and countenance, had they not been impoſed upon by miſrepreſentation, and miſled by thoſe arts, of which I have cauſe to believe your L--d--p to be ſo perfect a maſter.

To inform my reader, and to remind your L--d--p, of your whole Conduct towards me, I muſt begin at *B*——*h*; for there it was I firſt, unfortunately, had the honour of being made known to you; there it was

was your L--d--p firſt told me what a real and ſincere friendſhip you had conceived for me. Your L--d--p's age and condition removed the moſt diſtant ſuſpicion of your having any deſigns againſt my honour: I was ſo far from fearing any ill from your L--d--p, that when my father came to fetch me to town, I informed him how much notice I had been honoured with from your L—d—p, and the aſſurances you had given me, to do all you could to ſerve me in a matter of great conſequence I then had in view. My father, thereupon, left me at *Bath*, in order to improve and ſtrengthen that friendſhip, which we both thought might contribute ſo much to my advantage and happineſs: But I ſoon found your

L—d—p

L——d——p exerciſing every art a man, grown old in experience, could uſe, to perſuade me that your friendſhip was united with the moſt paſſionate and tender love. When I came to town, *Rotten-Row* was neglected for the *New-Road.* Your L--d--p well knew the parade of a coronet chariot in an obſcure part of the city, three times a week, would ſoon excite curioſity to know the owner; and when that was known, your L--d--p muſt know that your errand was not hard to gueſs at without doors; and within your L--d--p did not leave any doubt. You know how often on your knees at my feet, and with tears from your eyes, you ſwore the moſt inviolable love; how often you declared that it was in the hand of

providence

providence only to give me yours; but whatever was in your power to convince me of the ſincerity of your love, you would gladly do; and offered me Eight Hundred Pounds a year, and bid me fetch a pen and ink to confirm the truth of your generoſity. A young woman, unacquainted with the world, undeſigning and unſuſpicious, not to mention a word of vanity, might eaſily be led to eſteem and pity a man under the circumſtances I really believed your L--d--p to be: For who even of more experience, could believe that a man of your rank, a man near ſixty years of age, and a married man too, could at will call forth tears (as you did) to aſſiſt his tongue, in declaring a paſſion which his heart did not feel?

feel? And who can much wonder (for I ſhall not ſuppreſs the truth) that I eſteemed you, honoured you, and pitied you; for at that time much pains was taken to make me believe, I ſtood a great chance of one day being a very fortunate Woman; and by thus working on my Vanity, my Judgment was ſhut out, and I did not then ſee how very improper my behaviour was, to put it in your L--d--p's power to repeat, what I am ſenſible I ought to have heard but once; and then not even from your L--d--p, without ſhewing a proper Reſentment; and therefore I muſt own your L--d--p's art, my own vanity, and the vanity of thoſe about me, all conſpired to miſlead and darken my Judgment; which, perhaps,

haps, may not be ſo much wonder'd at, nor ſo much cenſured, when I repeat the arts you exerciſed, in telling me your triumphs over other women, but that you had now forſaken them all on my Account, and that I alone was the object you adored.

In this ſituation I thought it highly proper, and indeed neceſſary, to acquaint my father with your L--d--p's extraordinary and particular behaviour. I did ſo, from time to time; but am ſorry to ſay (I ſay it with the greateſt reluctance) he told me I was a fool for not accepting your offer; but upon my expreſſing much aſtoniſhment, he added, that I was not obliged to comply with the

terms, though I accepted the ſettlement. However, he perſiſted in its being very improper, not to receive and cultivate your L--d--p's Friendſhip; and even urged me very much to drop the acquaintance of many real friends, who thought more properly, and adviſed me more prudently. This was the firſt cauſe of that diſagreement between my father and me, which has, in all probability, occaſioned our perpetual ſeparation. Indeed, he very juſtly obſerved, that I was in appearance eſteemed, and in countenance highly honoured by ſingular marks of favour from your L--d--p's Lady, whoſe eſteem, I ſtill flatter myſelf, I have not forfeited.

UNDER theſe circumſtances, and the hopes your L--d--p gave me to expect, through your intereſt, to ſucceed in a matter, you intimated to me, was not difficult to obtain; and being conſcious of my innocent intentions, I was prevailed upon to receive your L--d--p's frequent viſits; and my good opinion of your L--d--p, together with my unſuſpicious temper, made me believe all you ſaid was true. I was often cautioned, by perſons whoſe benevolence and compaſſion prevailed upon them to act the part which my father ought to have acted, to beware of your L--d--p: I was, however, determined, with a conſcious innocence, to ſubmit to the cenſures of

the world (and your L--d--p knows how much I was cenſured) rather than believe it poſſible that there lived a man ſo falſe, and artful. When your L--d--p, on your knees, and with tears trickling down your aged cheeks, ſwore the ſincerity of your love; when you told me you could not help your age, if I objected to that, but every proof which was in your power I might command: You know, I then told your L--d--p, that your age and perſon were both very agreeable to me: They certainly were ſo; and at that time I own (ſetting your rank and quality out of the queſtion) I ſhould have preferred you to any man in the kingdom, had you been ſingle: ſo far had the partiality I thought you

had

had for me, and the artifices you made uſe of, deluded my ſenſes.

THE manifeſt injury your L—d-ſh—p's particular behaviour did me, is too well known, and too ſeverely felt by me to enlarge on here. The manifeſt injury you did me, by laying your commands like a father on me, not to meet a certain great perſon, at the houſe of a lady of reputation, and in company with people of the higheſt rank and honour, is what you cannot attone to me for; and, likewiſe, your compelling me to refuſe a lady of high rank a trifling Requeſt, whom I afterwards took the liberty to aſk a ſubſcription from, and whoſe juſt refuſal I could not have experienced, but for refuſing

what

what I ought then to have known was wrong to refuſe, becauſe ſhe aſked it, and what I could not have refuſed, had not you miſlead me.

I DID not then know your motive for ſuch Proceeding, but I now do : your L--d--p's ſuſpicious age was alarmed at every man that ſpoke to me, and it was attention to yourſelf, not to me, that made you prevail on me and my father, to act ſo ignorantly rude. This was the cauſe of the firſt Abſurdity you made me commit ; and the ſame motive, tho' not ſo obvious, was the cauſe of the ſecond. However, I muſt do your L--d--p the juſtice to ſay, that as you conceived this Meeting would have been moſt pleaſing to me, and, perhaps,

perhaps, of ſome advantage, your L—d—p did (in conſideration of ſo great a diſappointment) ſend me, a few days after, a preſent of a boar's head, which I had often had the honour to meet at your L—d—p's table before. It was rather an odd, firſt, and only preſent, from a L--d to his beloved miſtreſs; but its coming from your L--d--p, gave it a value, which it had not in itſelf; and I received it with the regard I thought due to every thing coming from your L—d—p, and would have eat it, had it been eatable.

I SHALL now proceed to ſhew, that your L—d—p's conduct towards me, did, in a great meaſure, occaſion my preſent undertaking, and my

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my leaving my father's houſe, to endeavour to turn the poor talents I had, to make a tythe of that proviſion for myſelf, with innocence, that your L—d—p ſo much ſollicited me to accept of from your hands for proſtitution. What was your L--d--p's motives to obſtruct my endeavours, by miſrepreſentation and calumny, I am at a loſs to gueſs; unleſs by depriving me of the only means in my power of ſupporting myſelf, you hoped to reduce me to the neceſſity of receiving ſupport from your L—d—p, upon ſuch conditions as you ſhould be pleaſed to impoſe. And although your L--d--p has vouched the authority of a near relation of mine in ſupport of thoſe calumnies; yet I am perſuaded you

Dr. Ford

do

do not believe there is a word of truth in them. That gentleman affects to make the world believe, his family is diſhonoured by my getting my bread, I hope, in as reputable a manner as he gets his; but does not think he diſhonours his family, in paying a ſervile court to your L--d--p, who he knows uſed every art to ſeduce and debauch his n---e.

A MISTAKEN pride and jealouſy for the honour of his family, cannot, therefore, be the motives of his conduct. What they were, I leave to himſelf! However, notwithſtanding your L--d--p's and his united endeavours, to my diſadvantage, I have the ſatisfaction to find many ſenſible people of opinion, that a young wo-

man may ſing in public, or (to uſe your L--d--p's own words) be a public ſinger, with virtue and innocence; and be looked upon in as favourable a light, as a ſurgeon or midwife, who can pay his court to a man of quality, who he knows had deſigns againſt the honour of his n---e; and at the ſame time, pretend to think his family diſhonoured by her exerciſing an art, for her ſupport, which perſons of the higheſt ſtations, and greateſt virtue, are not aſhamed to exerciſe, for their amuſement.

THIS gentleman has given it me under his hand, that he does for ever renounce me. His reaſons for renouncing me are, as he pretends, to

comfort

comfort my father, whom he ſays I have injured, and to ſet my conduct in an odious light to his own daughters. But if I had injured my father, in the manner he has been pleaſed to ſay I have, why did he not forbear 'till my father, who certainly is the propereſt judge whether I have injured him, had renounced me. My father is ſo far from having renounced me, that he then did, and does now ſolicit my return to him.

It affords me the higheſt ſatisfaction, that my conſcience does not accuſe me of having ever injured my father. If his cruel treatment of me, and the neceſſity he has laid me under of defending my innocence, has forced from me a diſcovery of

facts, which I ſhould not otherwiſe have diſcovered; and if the world has put conſtructions on thoſe facts, to his diſadvantage, it is his misfortune, not my fault.

I SHOULD not have ſaid ſo much about this kinſman midwife, had not your L--d--p informed me he was your oracle, and a man of unqueſtionable veracity. A ſpecimen of his veracity is the aſſurance he gave your L--d--p, that my father had offered to ſettle very handſomely upon me; and that I rejected his offer.

I AM nevertheleſs ſenſible, this gentleman of veracity muſt be believed by your L--d--p; you muſt believe his ſtory the better to ſupport your own:

own: However, I flatter myſelf, that I ſhall undeceive ſome who deteſt vice, and a bad heart, in the perſon of any man. Some there are, who by reaſon of your L--d--p's cruel ſtory againſt me, refuſed me their countenance, who afterwards, upon better information, did, unaſked, what they had juſt before ſo flatly refuſed; and told me their reaſons: And I have the ſatisfaction to know, that one of the number is a lady of high rank, of unfeigned piety, and manly underſtanding.

But to return to the reaſons, I was going to ſhew, why I left my father's houſe, and why your L--d--p's conduct in a great meaſure occaſioned it. Many of my real friends told me

me (though they believed me innocent) that your L--d--p's frequent viſits, and particular behaviour in public, had been ſo much talked of, that it was moſt likely to occaſion my life to be a ſingle one; and indeed I thought ſo too. This was one (for I had other reaſons) why I took that ſtep. I then wrote my father a dutiful and reſpectful letter, ſetting forth the grateful ſenſe I had of the education he had given me, and the obligations I was under to him for it; but at the ſame time informed him, how wretched my future ſituation in life muſt be, if I outlived him, and was then left unprovided for; and told him, if he did not chooſe to make ſome certain ſettlement on me (for he was then, as I apprehended,

about

about marrying) I hoped he would permit me, while my faculties and ſpirits would enable me, and before my friends had forgot me (of which number I then conſidered your L--d--p the firſt) to turn the talents God had given me, and he had improved, to make a proviſion for myſelf. My Father in return, replied, I uſe his own words, *If you are determined (very unneceſſarily ſo) for a public character, I will co-operate with you, in the beſt means, to promote it; and give up my own opinion to your inclination.* Here was no offer of ſettlement, but an abſolute conſent, provided he might co-operate with me. But believing that might rather retard, than promote my ſcheme, I took the liberty, in the moſt

moſt reſpectful manner, to tell him ſo, and on this —— but I ſhall omit, having in my own defence ſaid too much already, mentioning the raſh proceeding he was adviſed to take, I ſuppoſe by my kinſman, the midwife, who, perhaps, knew enough to foreſee, that ſuch a ſhock might, as it has, injure and impair my faculties, ſo as to render me unable to perſevere in my undertaking.

I WAS determined, however, to proſecute my ſcheme, and apply to my friends to promote a Subſcription Concert. The firſt application I made, was to your L--d--p's L--dy, with my humble requeſt, that her L--y--p would grant me a continuance of that countenance, I had been

ſo

ſo long particularly honoured with; and at the ſame time took the liberty to inform her of my reaſons for ſo doing, except that moſt material one mentioned above. I was conſcious I had never injured her L—d—p; and I was ſenſible, how much reſpect and gratitude was due, for the many honours and favours her L--y--p had conferred on me: But, good God! what was my ſurpriſe, when I found the following anſwer to my humble requeſt, written with your L--d--p's hand, and ſealed with your porter's ſeal,

" L--y - - - - - - received Miſs
" F - - d's letter, and both her
" L--y--p and L--d - - - - - - are
" moſt extremely ſurpriſed to hear of

" her intention to appear in public
" as a ſinger. The reaſon ſhe aſ-
" ſigns, make it ſtill more extraor-
" dinary, as her u—le, a man of
" unqueſtionable veracity, aſſured
" them laſt Friday, that her father
" offered to ſettle very handſomely
" upon her."

He did offer it; and the offer was readily accepted, under all the conditions he was pleaſed to annex to it: but, although the offer was made and accepted, yet it was never performed. I cannot expreſs how great a ſhock, this unexpected reply to my humble requeſt gave me, for though my letter was to L--dy ----- yet my requeſt was jointly to her and your L--d--p. To be refuſed a ſubſcription

ſubſcription of five guineas, from a man of your exalted rank and fortune, who had been ſo often entertained at my father's houſe at a much greater expence; who had been ſo often on your knees to me, and ſo often ſwore an unalterable love and friendſhip for me, to be refuſed ſuch a trifle, when it was aſked with the utmoſt humility; when it was aſked to contribute to my future ſupport; aſtoniſhing indeed! What crime had I been guilty of, or what crime had I been accuſed of, that could appear ſo black to your L--d--p, as to induce you to treat my humble requeſt with ſuch contempt and diſregard? Would it not have been as well judged, and have appeared more like a man of rank, to have ſent your

ſubſcription, expreſſed your diſapprobation to my ſcheme, and given me to underſtand that I was not to expect any farther countenance nor aſſiſtance from your L--d--p? A reply of that kind I ſhould have felt deeply in my heart, and it would have prevented my head from the moſt diſtant thought of expoſing your L--d--p's conduct, or my own folly: It would have ſaved me the vexation of writing this letter; your L--d--p the vexation of reading and hearing of it; and the few friends you have, the trouble of juſtifying, what their conſciences muſt inform them, cannot be ſupported to your credit.

IT is, however, a ſatisfaction, tho' a poor one, to know, that I have been guilty of no crime ſo bad, as a man of great rank, an old man, a man old enough to be my grandfather, and a ſenſible man, did, by every art he was maſter of, endeavour to betray me into; and becauſe he did not ſucceed, turned all thoſe arts againſt me, to obſtruct my ſucceſs in an undertaking, that my ſuperiors have not been aſhamed of, and what I inſiſt upon is *almoſt* as reputable, as it is to be, or thought to be, your L—d——p's miſtreſs: All I have done has been to repeat, for my own advantage, what I ſo often did, and to as large an aſſembly, at your houſe, and for your L--d--p's amuſement.

amuſement. Perhaps my advantage would have been now much greater, had not your L--d--p expoſed yourſelf, and me too, ſo frequently in the public manner you did: but this I overlook, as I do not believe you then thought (though many of my friends did) that it was any diſ-ſervice to me. It now, however, plainly appears it was ſo, which I need not enforce to your L--d--p, who ſo well knows the ſtrength of curioſity.

HAD your L--d--p granted my humble requeſt (the refuſal of which now gives me a ſecret pleaſure) this letter had never been publiſhed. And tho' your L--d--p is ſo much exalted above me in rank and fortune, you are not, it is to be hoped, ſo void of

feeling,

feeling, as not to have ſeen and felt the right I had to call upon you for your moſt powerful protection and aſſiſtance. I am not to account to you for my conduct; but I have a right to call you to an account for yours towards me. You have injured my character, and you have obſtructed my ſucceſs. I have not, nor can be guilty, of either of theſe grievous things towards your L--d--p. I therefore beg leave to aſk your L--dſh--p a queſtion; I aſk it of your heart; that will inform you, though, perhaps, you will not vouchſafe to inform me; no matter: This queſtion is, whether, if I had wrote your L—d—p a letter, and telling you my determination was to leave my father, have aſked (inſtead of your

ſubſcription)

ſubſcription) your leave to throw myſelf entirely under your protection and power, whether you would or not have encouraged me to have taken ſuch a ſtep? I aſk you this queſtion, becauſe you know how often you have expreſſed your deſire of my living at the court-end of the town, and told me all your views were to get me into ſome way to favour my reſidence near you. Where my reſidence now is, it matters not to your L--d--p; but where my reſidence is, and how I reſide, is of ſome conſequence to me; and therefore I beſeech your L--d--p, not to turn the powers of fortune, and the ſuperior talents God has bleſſed you with, to take away the bread of a young woman, who never offended you.

you. If I was weak enough to believe what your L--d--p ſo often ſwore to me, what other weakneſs was I not liable to? And what allowance ought not your L--d--p, above all men, to make for any real, or imaginary follies I have been guilty of? I hope I may be allowed to ſay, it is poſſible I have been guilty only of follies; there are people of as high rank as your L--d--p, and of as good underſtanding, who do not believe even that of me; who countenance me without any ſiniſter views; a countenance that is likely to be permanent; becauſe they cannot become my inveterate enemies, as your L--d--p has, on account of my refuſing what your L--d--p ought not in honour, conſcience (and I will ſay,

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humanity and compaſſion) to have requeſted ; and what I was obliged in prudence, honour and conſcience, to refuſe ; and which refuſal, no man, I believe, except your L--d--p, would have reſented. All the amends I can poſſibly receive now, is the advantage that has, and may ſtill accrue to me from this publication, wherein I have acknowledged, for the ſake of Truth, my own follies, as well as your L--d--p's. I will not attempt to juſtify my own behaviour, but rely on the candour of my readers to think as favourably of me as my ſituation (all circumſtances conſidered) will admit. There is ſome merit in acknowledging an error ; it has been ſaid, and expected, your L--d--p *will acknowledge yours*

in

in *W———r H—ll*; do; for by ſo doing, you may, perhaps, farther diſtreſs, and totally ruin a poor girl, who may date her wretchedneſs from the day ſhe firſt became honoured with what your L--d--p called *your friendſhip*; who has for ever loſt an indulgent father (for ſo he was, with all his faults and failings) in conſequence of finding you; who has even been forſaken by thoſe relations that ſtill countenance your L—d—p: Do, my L—d, call me to an account for my conduct, by acknowledging yours; make me ſpend what little I have got, I will ſay, innocently, and with more pain than, perhaps, any one elſe ever endured; throw me in a jail, and there let me ſtarve and die, that my fatal ſtory

may be a warning to all young women not to refuſe the addreſſes, nor with-hold their favours from the rich and powerful, leſt every means be uſed to prevent their ſupporting themſelves in any other way; or they ſhould fooliſhly attempt telling their grievances, and be farther puniſhed, becauſe the truth is not to be told at all times.

THE whole town unanimouſly agree I have told the truth; nobody doubts it; but how they came to fix the relation to any particular perſon, muſt be ſubmitted to your L--d--p's conſideration: Did you inform the whole town you had given me a boar's head? Or do they think no man but your L—d—p could have made

made me ſuch a preſent? I know no other circumſtance than this, to ſhew the public which way to direct their gueſſes; and therefore all their other information muſt have proceeded from ſome ſlips of your own.

IT is ſimple truth only that I aim to convey; and there is, you know, ſomething ſo powerful in truth, that I am not aſhamed to commit it to the preſs under every diſadvantage; and therefore I flatter myſelf that my readers, and the reviewers too, will not be over ſevere in criticiſing my performance. If my meaning is conveyed to your L--d--p and the public, it is all I wiſh; for I am ſenſible the performance is not worth two-pence; and therefore the price

is

is calculated to pay the expence of printing, and to put the Five Guineas you refuſed me, clear in my pocket; I covet no more.

THE only reluctance I could feel on the publication of this letter is, leſt it ſhould (for it has been ſuggeſted to me) give any pain to one of the beſt women that lives, and one for whom I muſt always feel the utmoſt eſteem and reſpect. This conſideration alone would have put a ſtop to it, had I not been well aſſured, by thoſe who are ſufficiently acquainted with her L——y——p, that ſhe is no ſtranger to your conduct to me.

YOUR

YOUR L--d--p knows, there are many things you ſaid to me relative to others that would aggravate the hardneſs and cruelty of your behaviour towards me: But I chooſe to avoid every thing that has the leaſt tendency to hurt any one; I mean only to ſhew who has injured me.

IF you have injured me, this letter will, I hope, do me ſome juſtice; if it does not, I muſt ſubmit to bear what I can't avoid. If I am not equal to the taſk I undertook, it was your L--d--p's flattery that made me think I was; but if, nevertheleſs, I had been honoured with (as I had a right to expect) your L--d--p's hearty protection and countenance,

it

it might have increaſed my profit three-fold.

You know a near relation to your L—d—p had a rout the firſt night of my concert laſt winter; and that ſome of my beſt friends were invited to it, who never were invited to any former ones; and you may gueſs what ſhocking reflections it muſt afford me, to find the ſame perſon employed by your L—d—p to obſtruct my intereſt, who, at your requeſt, had ſo lately invited me to her rout, when you were pleaſed to tell me (I uſe your L—d—p's own words) *Madam, there is no relation of mine, that ſhall not treat you with the utmoſt reſpect.* I am not unaware your L—d—p may ſay, that theſe aſſertions

aſſertions are not true; but the frequent viſits you made me, and the frequent viſits my father and I were ſo often invited to make your L--d--p, cannot be ſuppoſed to ariſe from any partiality to him; becauſe I do not hear that he has offended you; and yet I cannot learn, that he has once dined with your L--d--p ſince I left him; though before that, he and I had that honour two or three times a week.

I THEREFORE acknowledge your L--d--p's behaviour, and my own vanity, incline me to believe it aroſe from your partiality to me, who never injured or offended you; but who now think myſelf irreparably injured

by your L--d--p. I have ſuffered in my purſe and reputation; your L--d--p has ſaved your purſe, and been the means of with-holding the purſes too of many, that would otherwiſe have been open to me. But I have learnt from a knowledge of your L--d--p's condition, and that of many others, that affluence may be had without happineſs, and contentment without affluence: If it be not, I know my proſpect is but an indifferent one: But I can with truth affirm, that neither the loſs of your L--d--p's ſubſcription, nor the want of your countenance, can ever imbitter one moment of my life to come.

THIS letter was to have made its firſt appearance laſt winter; but I was adviſed to let it reſt; nor would it have appeared now, but that I find it is the general opinion, that your L--d--p had prevailed upon me to with-hold it, by a preſent of more value than a boar's head: But I cannot avoid doing your L--d--p the juſtice to ſay, *that this valuable conſideration is believed only by thoſe, who have not the leaſt knowledge of your L--d--p.* But as my acquaintance is now chiefly amongſt that claſs of people (for I am greatly humbled) I am impatient to acquit your L--d--p and myſelf, by ſhewing, that as your L--d--p's Eight Hundred Pounds a year did not purchaſe my perſon,

a boar's head did not purchaſe my ſilence; and I here further declare, in juſtice to your L--d--p, that no huſh money was offered, though ſome addreſs was made uſe of to ſtop this publication. I farther declare, that I believe, had I fetched the pen and ink to confirm your L--d--p's firſt great offer, you would ſuddenly have been ſeized with *the gout in your hand* (for I remember it was flying about you) which would have render'd you, at that time, unable to have performed your generous offer; and, therefore, I renounce every grain of merit I might be ſuppoſed to claim on that ſingle conſideration; for I freely own, at that time your L--d--p had two ſtronger advocates, my Father, whom you boaſted was

all

all you could wiſh, to favour your ſucceſs, and his daughter, whom you was not then at all diſagreeable to; but who now thinks herſelf

Your L--d--p's *irreparably injured*

Humble Servant,

A. F - - d.

POST-

POSTSCRIPT.

THE author of the above ſheets, humbly recommends it to all young ladies, from the age of ſixteen to twenty-five, to cut out page 7 and 11, and paſte them on little hand fire-ſcreens, and whenever they are beſet on the ſcore of love, by old, or middle aged men (for they are the moſt dangerous) immediately to place the ſaid ſcreen between their own

own face, and that of their lover; nothing is ſo likely to make their conſciences revolt, if they are not ſincere; and it's ten thouſand to one they are not; nor nothing is ſo likely to put a check to the proceedings of thoſe artful, whining lovers, who can affect a paſſion, in a tone as familiar to diſtreſs, as a beggar's brat.

BRITISH
MUSEUM

A

NEW SONG

TO THE

TUNE of *CHEVY-CHACE.*

I.

'TIS of a noble L - - d I ſing;
An E - - l of high renown;
Of whoſe atchievements fame doth ring,
Throughout this mighty town.

II.

Youthful and handſome once was he,
And am'rous all his life;
And all hiſtorians do agree
That once he lov'd his wife.

III.

By Cupid arm'd with all his arts,
T'aſſiſt the wanton trade;
Among the gentle virgins hearts
He grievous havock made.

IV.

He laughing play'd with Cupid's ſnares;
It but his Hours amuſed;
And often has been heard to ſwear,
He never was refus'd.

V.

V.

Time who deſtroy'd the walls of Troy,
This Champion did defy ;
He kept the poſt of youth and joy,
Nor from love's field wou'd fly.

VI.

In that vile place, the city call'd,
A lovely Maiden dwell'd ;
Whoſe charms his mighty heart ſubdued,
And all his valour quell'd.

VII.

One day as am'rous Phœbus deign'd
This pupil to inſpire ;
While ſhe to learn her leſſon feign'd,
She ſtole his fav'rite lyre.

VIII.

His ſtolen prize, in ſpight of ſhame,
To all the world is known;
Its praiſes too ſhe boldly claims,
And wears them as her own.

IX.

He ſaw her ſmile; he heard her ſing;
He felt the raging ſmart;
The pain ſo often felt before,
Again poſſeſs'd his heart.

X.

Upon his knees the hero fell,
He ſigh'd, he wept, he ſwore;
Offer'd his heart, his life, his ſoul,
And eke his wealthy ſtore.

XI.

XI.

He try'd all ways that thoſe who love
Uſe to expreſs their pain ;
From her white hand he took----her glove,
And drew it on again.

XII.

Then to the charmer of his heart,
He made his ardent pray'r,
And vow'd to ſettle on his part,
Eight Hundred Pounds a year !

XIII.

The Maid with ſcorn his ſuit repell'd ;
Her virtue ſtood the field ;
Her heart refuſed to be compell'd
On ſuch baſe terms to yield.

XIV.

This iſland L--d was ſorely griev'd
To find ſhe ſtood her ground ;
His pride was piqu'd, his hope de-
ceiv'd,
Its firſt repulſe had found.

XV.

Diſhoneſt love can never bear
True virtue's pride and ſcorn ;
Repulſed, its refuge is deſpair,
Or to revenge will turn.

XVI.

I ſcorn my fate, the maiden ſaid ;
The world's applauſe I'll try ;
While vice her votaries has paid,
Shall virtue ſilent die ?

XVII.

The p - - r inform'd of her deſign,
Moſt meanly condeſcends
To foil her fame, her project ſpoil's
In whiſpers to her friends.

XVIII.

With idle tales of this and that,
He female ears amuſed;
To ſhew his zeal, and his revenge,
Five guineas he refuſed.

XIX.

Now God reform all noble L - - ds,
That lead unrighteous lives;
May ſhame be ſtill their juſt reward,
That do defraud their wives.

FINIS.

XVII.

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F I N I S.

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